

**MINUTES of Franklin County Democratic Party  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Held on January 23, 2020**

Meeting was held on Thursday, January 23rd, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Columbus Firefighters Union Hall located at 379 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215.

Meeting called to order by Franklin County Democratic Party Chairman Michael Sexton and Pledge of Allegiance led by James Ragland.

Katherine Chipps made remarks about the passing of Sharron Whitten. Commissioner O'Grady made remarks about the passing of Mark Dempsey.

Chairman Sexton held a moment of silence marking the passing of Sharon Whitten and Mark Dempsey.

Chairman Sexton then introduced all elected officials in attendance.

Rules of the Executive Committee meeting explained by Chairman Sexton (speakers must be recognized by the Chairman, limited to 3 minutes each, only one person may speak at a time and all comments must be relevant to the discussion at hand). Motion to accept rules approved by majority vote.

Minutes from the September 25, 2019 meeting approved by majority vote.

Treasurer report provided by Treasurer Kim Marinello. Balance on hand as of January 23, 2020 meeting was \$127,461.78. Contributions through January 23, 2020 were \$334,592.77 and Expenditures through January 23, 2020 were \$378,570.98. Balance on hand on date of meeting was \$83,483.57. In-Kind received during this period (Post General) was \$3,626.00. Report approved by majority vote.

Motion to approve the appointments to the Franklin County Democratic Party Central Committee and Executive Committee. The following individuals were approved by a majority vote:

Central Committee Members:

Allison Russo-Upper Arlington Ward 1

Executive Committee At-Large Members:

Michael Schadek

Brian Shinn administered the oath of office to new members.

Chairman Sexton thanked all FCDP members and volunteers for their hard work for the November election. We retained all our Democratic seats and flipped 16 Republican held seats to the Democratic column including a countywide victory by Judge Jessica D'Varga and a victory for City Council in Hilliard by Cynthia Vermillion. Huge victories in many suburban communities including the flip of 7 Republican seats in Reynoldsburg. Chairman talked about the importance of unifying in 2020 to beat President Trump and elect our endorsed candidates.

Recommendations of the FCDP judicial screening committee were presented by Shawn Dingus, Chairman of the committee. Other judicial screening committee members included Mary Woods, Jen House, Michael Bivens, Janica Pierce-Tucker, Jason Kester, Bill Hedrick, Mark Rutkus, Leah Reibel, Marquise Lovejoy, Wes Phillips, Ashon McKenzie, Rodney French and Janet Grubb.

The following recommendations of endorsement by the judicial screening committee were approved by majority vote:

Court of Appeals: Judge Terri Jamison and Mike Mentel

Court of Common Pleas: Judge David Young; Judge Chris Brown; Carl Aveni; Sheryl Munson; Andy Miller

Domestic Relations: Lasheyl Stroud; George Leach

Probate: Zach Space

Supreme Court: John Donnelly; Jennifer Brunner

Recommendations of the Franklin County Democratic Party screening committee presented by Chairwoman Jen House. Other screening committee members included Antone White, Mary Woods, Marquise Lovejoy, Deborah Johnson, Rodney French, Monica Cerrezuela, Jeff Mackey, Jessica Clinger and Jeff Hunley on the first day. Screening committee process explained by Chairwoman House.

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendation to endorse Issue 21 (Columbus State Community College Bond issue) approved by majority vote.

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendation to endorse Joyce Beatty in Ohio's 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District approved by majority vote.

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendation to endorse Alaina Shearer in Ohio's 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District approved by majority vote.

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendation to endorse Joel Newby in Ohio's 15<sup>th</sup> Congressional District approved by majority vote.

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendations to endorse the following candidates for county offices approved by majority vote:

Kevin Boyce for County Commissioner

John O'Grady for County Commissioner

Maryellen O'Shaughnessy for Clerk of Courts

Cheryl Brooks Sullivan for Treasurer

Danny O'Connor for Recorder

Dallas Baldwin for Sheriff

Dr. Anhi Ortiz for Coroner

Gary Tyack for Prosecutor

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendations to endorse the following candidates for the Ohio House of Representatives approved by majority vote:

17<sup>th</sup> District: Adam Miller

18<sup>th</sup> District: Kristin Boggs

19<sup>th</sup> District: Mary Lightbody  
20<sup>th</sup> District: Richard Brown  
21<sup>st</sup> District: Beth Liston  
23<sup>rd</sup> District: Nancy Day Achauer  
24<sup>th</sup> District: Allison Russo  
26<sup>th</sup> District: Erica Crawley

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendation to endorse David Leland in the Ohio House 22<sup>nd</sup> District approved by majority vote.

Motion to adopt the screening committee recommendation to endorse Dontavious Jarrells in the Ohio House 25<sup>th</sup> District approved by majority vote.

Motion to endorse Crystal Lett for the Ohio Senate 16<sup>th</sup> District approved by majority vote.

Bill DeMora reported on delegates for the Democratic National Convention.

Ed Leonard provided an update on the Franklin County Board of Elections voting security enhancements and parking updates.

Announcements included Early Voting to begin on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020; Primary Election Day is on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Membership renewal time and Chairman urged all to participate in Blue Bucks or contribute online at [fcdp.org](http://fcdp.org)

Motion to adjourn approved by majority vote.